

Government of India  
Ministry of Railways  
(Railway Board)

No.2000/Safety(A&R)/19/39 Pt.

New Delhi, dt. 1.06.2010

Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety,  
16-A, Ashok Marg,  
Lucknow.

**Sub: Manning of unmanned level crossing gates within station limits.**

**Ref: (i) NR's letter No.T/639/TGP/Level crossing dated 18.05.2010 addressed to Adviser/Safety, Railway Board (copy enclosed).**

**(ii) CRS/Northern Circle's letter No. Q/S&T/Luck/LLJ/96/1244 dated 05.03.2010 addressed to Chief Engineer, Rail Coach Factory, Rai Bareilly, Jangra Gate, Lucknow (copy enclosed).**

COM/NR in his letter under reference has referred to the remarks of CRS/Northern Circle, in regard to manning and interlocking of unmanned level crossings within station limits.

This reference is in connection with Yard remodeling work at Lalganj station of Lucknow Division on the Unnao - Unchahar single line section to facilitate take off points for Rail Coach Factory, Rai Bareilly and to provide two additional loop lines along with panel interlocking of the station. The Railway had applied for CRS sanction to execute the above work. CRS/Northern Circle, vide his letter dated 05.03.2010 under reference (ii) above has remarked that level crossing No.73 which is unmanned level crossing gate within station section should be manned and interlocked.

The unmanned level crossing No.73-C situated between Dn. Home and Up Advanced Starter of Lalganj Station has a TVU of 1802 (January, 2009) only and does not even qualify for manning as per Railway Board's letter No.2006.CE-I/LX/WP dated 12.04.2010 (copy enclosed). As per this letter, the gates which have a TVU of more than 3000 are to be manned.

The Railway has contended that there are no policy instructions from Board to the effect that all unmanned level crossing gates within station section have to be manned regardless of its TVUs. In fact, instructions issued by Railway Board vide letter No.2002/SIG/P1/1 dated 09.07.2002 (copy enclosed) are only for *interlocking of manned traffic level crossing gates within station section. There is no mention of manning of unmanned level crossings in this letter.*

Even these instructions were subsequently clarified vide letter No.2000/Sig/LX/2/Pt. dated 05.05.2003 (copy enclosed) which prescribe that "Mandatory requirement of interlocking of level crossing gate is laid down vide Board's circular No. 77/W-3/SG/LX/2 dated 16.03.79 (copy enclosed). The necessity or otherwise of interlocking of the gates, depending upon its class and location shall, therefore, be governed by these instructions."

Board's policy instructions for **interlocking of level crossing gate** is given in policy letter No.77/W-3/SG/LX/2 dated 16.03.79 which indicate that only those 'B' and 'C' class level crossing gates in station section, connected to a cabin operated by cabin staff and provided with lifting barriers, will be interlocked. Gates operated by an exclusive Gateman or by a Cabin staff only come in the category of manned Level Crossing Gates. **By this policy also, unmanned gates need not be interlocked.** Even by this circular, this level crossing gate at Lalganj station, therefore, need not be **interlocked** as there is no cabin close by.

Board's letter No.98/Sig/LX/2 dated 13/18.11.98 (copy enclosed) prescribes for safety measures at Level Crossings. Lalganj is on 'E' route and the level crossing is under 'C' class. Hence, it is not within purview of the category listed for '**interlocking**'. This joint circular still stands as a policy guideline.

As such, the purpose of Northern Railway to continue to retain the level crossing as unmanned is covered by existing policy guidelines. Even earlier while giving sanction to the doubling (of a small station) on Moradabad - Ghaziabad Section, the CRS, Northern Circle, had insisted on this precondition of interlocking an unmanned level crossing in similar circumstances.

It is requested that CCRS may kindly give approval of the Board's contention on the above issue.

Kgt 1/6/2016  
(Kamlesh Gupta)  
Adviser/Safety  
Railway Board

Encl: As above.

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दोपचन्द  
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